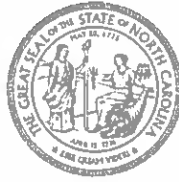


*Office of the Governor
State of North Carolina*

*Roy Cooper
Governor*



*20301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, N.C. 27699-0301*

October 11, 2019

The Honorable Harry Brown
North Carolina State Senate
Legislative Office Building, Room 300-B
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603-5925

The Honorable Dean Arp
North Carolina House of Representatives
Legislative Office Building, Room 307A
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603-5925

Dear Senator Brown & Representative Arp:

Regarding the request by employees of Eagle Intel Services to this office authorized by you and your letter of today, members of the Governor's Office decline to participate in closed-door interviews for this politically motivated sham.

The request to interrogate members of the Governor's staff and the Governor himself raises unprecedented separation of powers questions.

But more outrageous is dredging up old inquiries into an executive act that is almost two years old even after members of the Administration have appeared voluntarily before the legislature multiple times and provided reams of records.

The fact that you intend to inquire about the propriety of the funds paid by Duke is hypocritical at best given that you have already appropriated those funds. Clearly you did not believe that a mitigation fund was inappropriate. You simply wanted to control it. Moreover, the solar settlement to which you refer was advanced by Republican members of the General Assembly and approved by the NC Utilities Commission.

Our office notified you at the time you retained this Republican firm to go on a fishing expedition throughout the Administration that we would not participate in these closed-door interrogation sessions.

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In the absence of any legitimate motive for continuing this partisan charade, we can only conclude that the legislative intent is to create fake controversy to distract from allegations of corruption and unethical behavior by Republican legislative leadership.

As the legislature takes another vacation from work without giving teachers a pay raise or providing health insurance through Medicaid expansion, it's downright deplorable that you would waste time in this way.

Therefore, please inform your hired Republican investigators that members of the Office of the Governor decline interviews.

However, as we have repeatedly told you, if you are intent on pursuing these hearings on a fake controversy, the Governor's staff will answer questions at a public hearing in order to put this fully and finally to rest once and for all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristi Jones". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kristi Jones
Chief of Staff